



MAPFHA

MID AMERICA PASO FINO HORSE ASSOCIATION

E-Messenger

MAY 28, 2010

In This Edition: Letter from the President welcomes another new member, shares some thoughts about the MN Horse Expo and the weekend at Crow Hassan; More on the Expo in the Letter from the Vice President; An update for the June Fun Show includes the Show Bill; Member Briefs brings you a hard-headed tale; Our youth writer, Autum Mohawk is back with her column, "Autum's Breeze"; some Tid Bits for campers.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Steve Vogl

Greetings Members,

It's ironic. We spend the long months of winter wishing for the riding season to begin, then once it arrives: not enough hours in the day; not enough time to ride; busy juggling schedules, packing trailers – packing horses into trailers! We might complain, but the truth is we are enjoying every minute. Bringing in that load of first-cut spring hay to our horses has a unique satisfaction. And so it also goes with business at MAPFHA.

Pat Hanson of St Paul received a very special gift last Christmas; her first Paso Fino. Then we received our gift: Pat! She's our new MAPFHA member. Pat, congrats on getting your equine version of the Cadillac! We are very happy to have you on board and look forward to spending time with you at events and on the trails. Welcome!

The first official event of the year to support MAPFHA members was the 2010 MN Horse Expo in April. We had an unprecedented number of participating riders that weekend. The Paso Fino breed was well represented as the riders came with their beautiful horses. It turned out to also show that the Paso Fino comes in all colors. The group included bays, a black, beautiful dapple grays, a standout pure white, and an unexpected exceptionally well colored pinto. I did note that there wasn't a chestnut in the bunch. Perhaps I should bring mine next year? I'll head out to the barn and talk to good ol' Abe and see what he thinks.

Our group also showed the Paso Fino is for all riders, from our youngest exhibitor, Autum Mohawk, age 10, to our eldest rider of an age that will not be disclosed here. Sandy gives you more details in her 'Letter from the Vice President'.

MAPFHA's trail riding season is now well under way. In fact, I write this from my trailer at Pillsbury State Forest. Tomorrow is Memorial Day. Roxie and I plan a leisurely morning and after breakfast will head out on the trails for a couple of hours. Everyone else pulled out today to miss the rush of traffic heading home. We find ourselves in a nearly deserted campground. All would be quiet were it not for the nightly visit from our new friend, the whippoorwill that shows up like clockwork near the end of dusk.

The annual MAPFHA Bluestem Group Camp gathering had poor start with a day of riding lost due to very dismal weather on Friday. Everyone pulled into Crow Hassan Three Rivers District Park on Saturday morning and enjoyed the weekend of Mother's Day together. The skies cleared and the temperatures rose to provide us with very comfortable riding weather. The trails were in very good condition despite the rain and sleet of the day before. We all enjoyed reconnecting with each other again, and I was very happy to see Pat Hanson show up to meet us for the first time. I did have a little mishap on the trails on Saturday. I'm turning the telling of that tale over to my wife, Roxie. Find out what happened in her article under Member Briefs.

The next event is very soon. The annual MAPFHA Fun Show will be held on Saturday, June 12th. An informational email was recently sent out to members from Lynda Zimmerman.

I regretfully report that MAPFHA's Show Chair, MarKay Soll is on an extended medical leave. On behalf of the Board and all MAPFHA Members, we send our best to MarKay with wishes for a speedy recovery. In her absence, our previous Show Chair, Amanda Jaekels, has graciously come forward to fill in for MarKay. I know MarKay was looking forward to her first Fun Show, and we are going to miss her this time around. But the show must go on, so with help from Sharon Gallagher, I know Mandy will ensure it will all go well.

My thanks to everyone for all you do that makes MAPFHA what it is, a group of good people sharing friendships, good times, and the admiration of a good horse, the Paso Fino!

Happy Trails on the Smoothest Ride on Earth,

Steve

LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Sandy Reding

Happy trails everyone!

Here in Minnesota we have experienced a wonderful spring. There has been sun, rain, warm weather, and the trails opened two to four weeks ahead of schedule. We also avoided major snow storms and ice as well. Can you ask for anything more? Now let's pray that our summer is just as nice, not too hot and with few bugs.

The MN Horse Expo was held this year over April 23rd-25th. This year's participation by our members was the largest since I have been a member, thus made the Expo a bigger success for MAPFHA and the Paso Fino breed in our region. There were 19 horses present at the event with nine horses participating in each of the events. Many other members also participated by lending the exhibitors a hand or came out to cheer on the participants. The participants and their horses looked fabulous, performing like they had been doing it for years. As a result, we had many inquiries about the horses and the Association.

The 2010 MN Horse Expo participants were: Dick and Sue LeCleir, Don and Connie Wavra, Ruben Urrutia, Lynda Zimmerman, Autum Mohawk, and my husband and me, Bill and Sandy Reding.

Events included a breed parade each day at noon, plus on Friday and Saturday we exhibited in the breed demo. Our group performed a pattern for eight minutes. This was the most time ever allotted to us in the years I have participated. We were given more time because we had more riders, and hence, we were able to represent the Paso Fino very well indeed. The group received many comments on their wonderful performance.

Additionally, some riders and their Pasos participated in the *Nicole Carswell Gaited Horse Seminars* which explained to spectators more about our Pasos and the specialized gait. Be sure to take a look at the Gallery page on www.MAPFHA.com website for Expo photos!

My thanks to all of our riders that participated and their patience with Expo planning as it took place behind the scenes. I also thank those that helped the participants prepare for the demos, helped with isle setup and take down as well.

Now that the 2010 Expo is behind us I have already begun the planning for the 2011 Expo. Next year the MN Horse Expo is scheduled for the weekend of April 29th. Their website is already up with preliminary info at: www.MNHorseExpo.org If you and your trusty Paso Fino are interested in participating in 2011 please contact me by the end of August, 2010. I would love to have you join in as a MAPFHA representative. Stall reservations need to be sent in to the Expo management by the end of September. After that time if you determine you would like to join the group there is no guarantee that stalls will be with the other participants.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me. I'll be more than happy to answer questions and sign you up for the next spectacular Minnesota Horse Expo, 2011!

In the meantime, I'm glad to say I have seen many of you on the trail already this year and hope to see many more of you as the summer progresses. Enjoy your time spent with your horses!

Best Regards,

Sandy

SHOW CHAIR'S REPORT

Markay Soll

Submitted by Amanda Jaekels & Sharon Gallagher

The 2001 MAPFHA Fun Show is just around the corner on Saturday, June 12th. For those of you who have ridden in the events before, it will be a familiar routine with the first half of the day being the gaited classes, a break for lunch, followed by the gaming and racing events.

We will start the first event at 10:00 A.M. Remember, this event is limited to MAPFHA members only. Anyone who wants to participate can join the day of the Fun Show. All horses must have a current negative coggins certificate. Registration is \$25 per adult rider (\$20 junior; 12 & under free) for the day. You will find the complete Show Bill below.

We are still looking for volunteers. If you can lend a hand for any of the positions below, please call me (Sharon) at 320-743-2961 or email me at jrfarmpasos@aol.com or Amanda Jaekels at 320-209-9571 or adkwebdesign@aol.com

Class sponsors (\$10/class)

Judge & Relief Judge (anyone can do the latter if you can run a stop watch)

Persons to hand out ribbons (this is a fun way for children to be involved)

Record Keeper – recording class results

Kitchen – pop in and see what needs doing!

Relieving the gate keeper occasionally (only persons that can open and close a gate need apply)

If you are available for any of the above, be sure to let me know. Please don't think you aren't needed and someone else will volunteer! If we have several of you pitching in to help, tasks can be shared which is always more fun!

Thank you Lemmie Graham once again for volunteering to help with Sharon in the kitchen for food set-up and such. Thank you Chuck Hauser for being our Gate Keeper!

We'll see you at the Show!

Mandy & Sharon

Paso Fino Summer Fun Show

Hosted by Mid-America Paso Fino Association

June 12th, 2010 - 10:00 AM

Clearwater Rodeo Grounds - Clearwater, MN

An exhibition of the Nation's smoothest riding horse.

Open to all public spectators.

A day of showing for all Mid-America members.

<u>Class List*</u>	<u>Sponsored by</u>
1. Showmanship at Halter	-----
2. Bareback Pleasure	-----
3. Youth/Junior Pleasure	-----
4. Open Pleasure	-----
5. Non-Gaited Pleasure	-----
6. Equitation	-----
7. Versatility	-----
8. Walk/Corto Lead-line	-----
9. Egg & Spoon	-----
10. Barrel Racing	-----
11. Pole Weaving	-----
12. Jumping Figure 8	-----
13. Flag Race	-----
14. Pop Race	-----
15. Pair Race	-----
16. Phone Book Race	-----
17. Largo Race	-----
18. Trail	-----

Youth classes, 12 & under* - Free/day

Junior classes, 13-17 - \$20.00/day

Open classes, 18 & over - \$25.00/day

*children 12 & under MUST wear a helmet

-Refreshments and lunch will be available

-Championship classes will be held

-Prizes will be awarded for championship classes

-All horses are required to have a negative coggins report current within the last year

-Directions: Take I-94 to Clearwater exit (HWY 24), go South on HWY 24 about 3/4 mile to County Road 7, then go left for one mile. Rodeo grounds are on your right.

*classes with 3 or less entrants may be combined with a similar class or eliminated.

-patterns for the classes may be found at: www.pasofinshow.webs.com

For more information contact:
Amanda Jacekels - (320) 209-9571

MEMBER BRIEFS

A Hat of a Different Color

Subtitled: From Knucklehead to Helmet Head

Submitted by Roxie Vogl

“Aren’t you going to wear your helmet you just bought at the Expo?” I asked Steve.

“No, I bought that for when I ride Cassidy. He’s still spooky on the trails. I don’t need it to ride Good Ol’ Abe.”

I bet you know where this is going.

It was the trail ride over Mother’s Day weekend at Crow Hassan, Saturday morning. We headed out for the first ride of the weekend with a large group of a dozen riders. Crow Hassan is often used for field trials; hunting dogs eventing with mounted handlers. But there were no trials scheduled that weekend so we weren’t concerned about riding the trails near the camp used by that group.

We were only about a mile or so out of camp when it happened. Without warning, a dog shot out of the woods behind the last horse in our group, running full speed past all of us. As is typical, the last half of the group lagged several yards behind the others in front. I was in that lead group and we had just rounded a corner and couldn’t see the other riders. Everyone’s horses spooked, but my group did have a bit of a warning as Sandy Reding spotted the dog coming. The others were caught totally off guard, especially the very last horse and rider; Steve on Abe being the first accosted by the racing dog.

Nobody saw how he fell. I doubt Abe started bucking; it was probably a side jump, maybe a spin. However it happened, Steve hit the ground, hard.

Once our horses calmed down I realized Steve was in the back group where I couldn’t see him so I called out for him. Someone answered that he fell. The next thing I saw was Abe walking around the corner, no rider and no reins. I was about to go get Abe when the owner of the dog came riding past us at a full gallop after the dog while we were trying to catch a loose horse, had unsettled horses and kids riding with us. This man never once showed an ounce of consideration or courtesy! He didn’t even ask if Steve was ok. Geesh! The dog had better manners. At least the dog had doubled back and sat down next to Steve as if to worry over him.

By the time I was able to get back to Steve, he was on his feet still unsteady, Nancy Drumsta supporting him under one arm, the other hooked over her horse’s saddle. When he later recounted what happened he said he remembered grabbing the horn of his saddle then the next thing he remembered was being on the ground, Nancy’s hand in his face and she asking, “How many fingers am I holding up?” From the big smudge of dirt on his shoulder and the scratches on his cheek and forehead, it was clear what hit the ground first. And when I looked at his eyes it was easy to see that the lights were on, but nobody was home. For the first half hour or so he kept asking the same questions over again.

His ribs were badly bruised but we decided the pain wasn’t bad enough for any cracked bones. For sure he had a mild concussion, but other than being disoriented, he had no other significant symptoms so I gave in for the moment to his insistence that he didn’t need immediate medical attention. But, I didn’t trust his judgment or his balance, so Steve and I walked our horses back to camp.

It took Steve about 3 hours to get his head back on straight again. He wouldn’t let me drive him in to urgent care and he didn’t want to go home. We stayed the night, and he was back out riding the trails the next day.

Some Human Beings earn cool names like Dances With Wolves or Wind In His Hair. I think Steve's working towards Needs Glue On His Saddle.

I should say, before I end here, that I really don't think Steve's a knucklehead. Since all's well that ends well, I couldn't get myself to pass up a chance to tease him a little. The truth is, I'm the 'knucklehead' without a helmet. My excuse has been that I get so darned hot as it is that I have trouble tolerating anything on my head that holds in more body heat. As a matter of fact, I'd go Godiva if I thought I could avoid arrest, saddle sores, or causing severe emotional trauma to witnesses. Even so, I'm thinking about finding myself a good helmet. It's the smart way to ride.

AUTUM'S CORNER

Autum Mohawk

Hello MAPFHA!

It's Autum here. How is everyone? Doing well I hope. In this newsletter I will be writing about the 2010 Minnesota Horse Expo and what Breeze and I are looking forward to this summer. For my very first newsletter I wrote was about the 2009 Minnesota Horse Expo and it's time already to tell you about another year.

As you know, MAPFHA represents the Paso Fino at the MN Expo every year. This year there were 9 riders in the Expo. We had a great performance this year! All the horses were wonderful! The decorations were good too. The Expo is always fun to go to. This year I bought my horse, Breeze, a zebra sleezy to wear in her stall. She looks hilarious in it! Everyone was calling her a Zorse! Haha!! Well anyways, our family had a great time this year.

I would like to give a special thanks to Sandy and Bill for putting the Paso demo together. Also, a big thank you to Bob Zimmerman for the wonderful photos! You can find them on the website in the Gallery! And last but not least, I give my thanks to everyone else that participated in the Paso demo. Everyone really missed Brenda Bergman this year. Brenda, if your reading this I hope you feel better!

I think everyone from the Minnesota area should try to attend the expo. It's a great place to shop, learn, and see a lot of different breeds of horses! Plus there's always the rodeo. The rodeo is a blast!

Alright, back to the Paso Fino part of the Expo. This year we got eight minutes for our performance. Wow, that's a lot of time! The year before we only had two! I think we did great! Our patterns were awesome and I was even told by some that out of all the breeds shown we had one of the best demos there! We all worked together wonderfully despite the fact that we only had a few hours together to practice before the show began! I can't wait until next year!!!

Also I would like to talk a little about upcoming shows. I go to a lot of all breed pleasure and game shows close to where I live in northern MN, but I also like to do other gaited breed shows. Every year we go to an awesome MWA (Minnesota Walking Horse Assoc.) horse show. They accept all gaited breeds there & have Paso classes as well. It's called the Southern Minnesota Classic. It was canceled last year though, and I don't know if they will bring it back this year. I sure hope they do! It is held way down south in Albert Lea. That's about a five hour drive for me. Ugh! But it's worth it!

Another event this year I would like to attend is the MAPFHA Fun Show. Hopefully we will be able to make either the one in June or the one in September! Everyone said it was a blast!

I'm looking forward to another summer of camping. My family and I go horse camping at Togo and Stony Brooke horse camps all the time. There are many, many trails to ride. We would also like to attend some of the

MAPFHA scheduled trail rides this year as well. We love to go horse camping! It is great to try out the different trails.

Memorial weekend we will be at Togo horse camp participating in a Hobo Run (orienteering race) that some friends of ours put together for us each year. I love to do the Hobos with Breeze and we have won a few times too! Maybe my team will win again this year! I'll let you know.

Well that's all for now folks!

Sincerely Yours,

Autum & Breeze

TID BITS

BENEFITS

Just a reminder that MAPFHA membership includes 2 free classified ads per fiscal year. Submit your 'For Sale' ad to be posted on MAPFHA's website CLASSIFIED page. You can find the policy and guidelines there too. Please feel free to email your ad or questions to me, Roxie: editorMAPFHAenews@msn.com

COOKING OVER THE CAMP FIRE

Bread Sticks

Purchase pre-made bread dough, divide into balls then roll out into a rope. Get yourself a good stout stick, wrap the dough corkscrew style around the end of the stick and slow roast over fire until done. Brush with plain or garlic butter if desired.

Variation: use a sweet dough instead and when done, brush with butter and sprinkle on cinnamon & sugar.

A TECHNO BIT

I'm a bit behind the times and have just recently replaced my standard cell phone with a 'smart' phone. They called it right on that one because it is definitely smarter than me! I'm struggling along learning to 'go mobile'. In the process, I've come across a couple of things I thought I'd pass along, hoping I'm not the last one to (kind of) figure out how this all works and it will be useful to someone else. I hope I've found a couple of ways to connect me up to the internet away from home in my camper using the Internet service I already have with my cell phone. I may be a bit premature in passing this info along as I haven't thoroughly researched or tried it out yet; consider yourself warned. By all means, if you are already using a gadget for this, let me know!

I've found a wireless router that seems to go beyond WiFi to 3G & picks up your cell phone's Internet signal. What's nice about this is you can connect several devices to it at once. And, it's relatively affordable. I'll bet there's more than one company that has this product. Here's the link to the one I found if you want to research it further:

<http://www.netgear.com/Products/RoutersandGateways/3GMobileBroadband/MR624GU.aspx?detail=System+Requirements>

I also just read that Internet TV is on its way this fall! This is being launched through a collaboration between Google, Sony, Logitech, & Intel. We will be able to purchase a TV with a built in internet connection, or a box

that will connect to an existing TV. Then it's just a matter of plugging that phone cord into your house internet connection. I have to think the above router can make it all mobile. Find out more at:
www.google.com/tv

Since then, I stumbled upon a feature on my phone that I didn't know existed. Yes, I can see you gadget gurus are about to roll your eyes at me! But for the rest of you, I found that my smart phone has a built in modem. My phone isn't state of the art, by the way, so don't assume yours won't have it. I believe this means that if I hook up a USB cord to my phone I can plug into my laptop get internet service on my laptop via the phone's modem (that is, if I'm in my cell phone provider's service area). One other thing to consider is whether or not you have unlimited usage. I wouldn't want to do this if I were paying by the minute (or gigabit or whatever form of techno measuring they use).

That's as much as I know for now to get you connected on the road. Or you can just forget about the world of technology, load up your horses, disconnect, and go enjoy the great outdoors!

